

*Chrono*

20 July 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT : Civil Agency T/KH Billets

1.  prototype meeting yesterday with the civil agency TSO's was highly enlightening and worthwhile. He plans to have such sessions regularly (monthly) from here on. Bob and Jim deserve special kudos for their initiative and hard work in carrying this off--for the first time since Argo's demise we have a real live working forum on this most elusive and slippery of problems.

2. Summary impressions from the meeting were as follows:

a. The civil agency TSO's are a pretty damn competent group--very conscientious, straight-forward, dedicated, enthusiastic and clearly men of some stature in their respective outfits. They got some real problems, however!

b. SSC has an excellent rapport and working relationship going with these chaps (more kudos for )

c. Absence of Commerce reps (Tab 1) was unfortunate.

d. We should be represented at all future sessions of this group.

3. Social Notes -- Old Mappers Never Die. Interestingly enough, and with some effect on our billet problem--as discussed below--the civil outfits are scarfing up various and sundry old-hands from the T-KH world, e.g., Doyle Frederick has gone from DMA to USGS; EPA is recruiting some recently dropped CIA types; apparently Interior is thinking of maybe picking up

4. Now, for the immediate problem at hand--them billets. The Agriculture rep naturally inquired as to his request for [ ] billets. (See also Tab 2 for just-received NOAA request to up theirs (!) [ ] It was clear from yesterday's discussion that we're in the chicken-and-egg cycle (Ag. Pun!). To go forward to the DCI, if we follow past practice, we naturally want some overall civil "ceiling" figure to propose--our present [ ] can't even pay the immediately pending bills. Given the present writhings about out there in the civil world, such a figure is nigh near impossible to come by. For example:

a. The Willkie winds blowing from the east are stirring up the various civil components to "get in there" and find out how they can use satellite imagery. In the nature of things, clearances needed to accomplish this are pure guesstimates. But until it's done, no meaningful program planning can come about, which is the ultimate basis for any firm billet structure delineation.

b. There are some 41 (?) government elements being buffeted by the Willkie winds that sooner or later can hit us for billet structure approval, with no basis at this time for getting any feel of what they'll be coming in with. Even the old-line, relatively stable outfits are coming unglued as to their needs, to wit:

(1) Interior has [ ] billets and is doing its best to work within that level (however, even here they are juggling the positions around so that the original "structure" is long outdated). BUT--in comes a cat like Doyle Frederick who says he wants everyone in his section cleared. If this is bought, Interior says it will be needing [ ] slots pronto. Further, one Radlinski is also pressing for clearance of virtually all Ass't Secretaries, including such quaint fields as "Wildlife," "National Parks", "Landuse and Reclamation," "Forestry Service," etc.

(2) EPA got [ ] in our last  
heaving effort (Tab 3), but are already up to  
[ ] clearances on "individual action/Form 2018"  
basis and will be seeking more.

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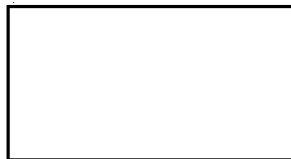
5. All the above relates only to clearances, our most immediate problem. I'll send some other notes separately on actual "use" problems, need for sanitization guidelines, etc. In effect, we have the following options in moving out on the billet problem:

- a. Handle each request separately via the DCI;
- b. Before next approaching the DCI for action, try to work out some coordinated bench-mark overall ceiling estimate with Willkie and [ ] new panel;
- c. Arbitrarily, pick a new kitty (nice kitty!) number out of the air [ ] and immediately go to the DCI with that;
- d. Recommend the DCI delegate us authority to handle these requests directly for the time being, reporting back (joint CX-SSC) monthly, quarterly, or some such.

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6. I suggest we go along the lines of d. If you buy it, I can whomp up a draft memo outlining the nature of the problem, factors to be weighed, recommendations (a la our last effort, Tab 4), etc. In any case, we'll have to move out on this one quick like a bunny!



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